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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/746,659	12/19/2000	Michelle E. Evans	10001992-1	1453

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
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EXAMINER

GRANT II, JEROME

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2626

DATE MAILED: 09/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/746,659	Applicant(s) EVANS, MICHELLE E.	
	Examiner Jerome Grant II	Art Unit 2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

JEROME GRANT II
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

Detailed Action

1.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 1, 7 and 13, the last limitation of the claims, the applicant uses the language "... responsive to a back of a second sheet to front of first sheet..." This language is confusing. What is responsive ? What is on the sheets to respond to ? What happens to intermediate sheets beside the first and second sheets ? Are the first and second sheets right behind each other ?

Correction is required.

2.

As best can be determined in view of the 112 rejections above, the following rejection is being made.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

Art Unit: 2626

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Tsuchitoi.

With respect to claim 1, Tsuchitoi teaches a method for sequencing sheets of a print job having multiple sheets, the method comprising: discovering an output accumulation sequence of a destination of the print job (see col. 8, lines 54-57 and col. 9, lines 1-17) and responsive to a predetermined condition, sequencing sheets of the print job in reverse (see col. 8, lines 63-67 especially line 66).

With respect to claims 2, 8 and 14, Tsuchitoi teaches ascertaining the destination of the print job (via host computer 150 which checks the print job from printer 100) and discovering from the destination the output sequence of the destination, see col. 9, lines 1-21 where host 150 discovers destination printer 100.

With respect to claims 3 and 15, Tsuchitoi teaches searching an index (via controller 151) for a record of the destination 100; and discovering the OAS from the destination record (order of read out 152 on the host and 115 on the printer).

With respect to claims 4, 10 and 16, Tsuchitoi teaches the claimed subject matter, see col. 8, lines 54-60 and col. 9, lines 1-30.

Art Unit: 2626

With respect to claims 5, 11 and 17, this limitation is inherent since the host designates the printer.

With respect to claims 6, 12 and 18, Tsuchitoe teaches this limitation as recited at col. 8, lines 61-67.

With respect to claim 7, Tsuchitoe teaches a system for sequencing multiple jobs comprising: an output sequence discovery system (host computer 150) as claimed; and a sequencer 152 or 115 configured to respond to a predetermined condition by sequencing of sheets in the reverse direction.

With respect to claim 9, Mori teaches an index (printer controller 151) having a record of the destination as claimed; a searcher (152 of controller 151) to search the index for the destination; and retriever 115 of printer 100 to discover the record.

With respect to claim 13 Mori teaches a program storage device readable by a computer (RAM 113 of printer 100 or the memory means inherent in Host 150), tangible embodying a program for performing the method steps of: discovering an output accumulation sequence of a destination of the print job (see col. 8, lines 54-57 and col. 9, lines 1-17) and responsive to a predetermined condition, sequencing sheets of the print job in reverse (see col. 8, lines 63-67 especially line 66).

Art Unit: 2626

3.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is 703-305-4391. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A Williams, can be reached on 703-305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


JEROME GRANT II
PRIMARY EXAMINER

J. Grant II